

1. (currently amended) A single press OSB panel, the panel ~~having~~ comprising:  
a first oriented strand face having a layer of wood flakes mixed with a thermoset resin binder, said first oriented strand face defining a plane;  
a second oriented strand face having a layer of wood flakes mixed with a thermoset resin binder; and  
a core material between said first oriented strand face and said second oriented strand face, said core material defining voids having boundaries that are essentially orthogonal to said plane defined by said first oriented strand face, said voids extending between said first and second oriented strand faces; and  
wherein said wood flakes have dimensions sufficient to bridge said voids.
2. (previously presented) The panel of claim 37, wherein said core material further comprises inorganic filler in the amount of about 10% to 80% by weight.
3. (previously presented) The panel of claim 2, wherein said inorganic filler comprises one or more of clay, calcium carbonate, and titanium dioxide.
4. (previously presented) The panel of claim 37, wherein said perforated mat is perforated such that it defines at most 75% voids by volume and wherein said core material further comprises resin binder in an amount of less than 10% by weight.
5. (currently amended) The panel of claim 37, wherein said perforated mat is perforated such that it defines ~~between 0% and~~ at most 50% voids by volume and wherein said core material further comprises resin binder in an amount of less than 5% by weight.
6. (previously presented) The panel of claim 37, wherein said perforated mat consists essentially of paper mill sludge.

7. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 37, wherein said perforated mat consists essentially of recycled paper.

8. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 37, wherein said perforated mat consists essentially of vulcanized rubber.

9. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 37, wherein said perforated mat consists essentially of thermoset plastics.

10. (previously presented) The panel of claim 2, wherein said perforated mat comprises one or more of paper mill sludge, recycled paper, vulcanized rubber, thermoset plastics, and volcanic rock.

11. (cancelled)

12. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said core further comprises inorganic filler in the amount of 10% to 80% by weight.

13. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 12, wherein said inorganic filler comprises one or more of clay, calcium carbonate, and titanium dioxide.

14. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said core comprises between 0% and 75% voids by volume and wherein said core further comprises resin binder in an amount of less than 10% by weight.

15. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said core comprises between 0% and 50% voids by volume and wherein said core further comprises resin binder in an amount of less than 5% by weight.

16. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said compression-resistant material consists essentially of paper mill sludge.

17. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said

compression-resistant material consists essentially of wood chips.

18. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said compression-resistant material consists essentially of recycled paper.

19. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said compression-resistant material consists essentially of vulcanized rubber.

20. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said compression-resistant material consists essentially of thermoset plastics.

21. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 38, wherein said compression-resistant material consists essentially of volcanic rock.

22. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 14, wherein said compression resistant material comprises one or more of paper mill sludge, wood chips, recycled paper, vulcanized rubber, thermoset plastics, and volcanic rock.

23. (withdrawn) A method for manufacturing an oriented strand board comprising the steps of:

depositing a first layer of wood flakes mixed with a thermoset resin binder, with a horizontal orientation;

depositing a core layer of a perforated mat on an upper surface of the first layer of wood flakes so that the perforation boundaries are essentially orthogonal to the orientation of the first layer of wood flakes;

depositing a second layer of wood flakes mixed with a thermoset resin binder on an upper surface of the core layer with the same horizontal orientation as that of the first layer of wood flakes; and

applying heat and pressure to the layers in a single hot pressing step.

24. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the perforated mat comprises 0% to 75% voids by volume.

25. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the perforated mat comprises 0% to 50% voids by volume.

26. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 23, further comprising the step of adding inorganic filler to the core layer in the amount of 10% to 80% by weight.

27. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 26, wherein said inorganic filler is one or more of clay, calcium carbonate, and titanium dioxide.

28. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the perforated mat comprises one or more of paper mill sludge, recycled paper, vulcanized rubber and thermoset plastics.

29. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 23, wherein the perforated mat comprises paper mill sludge.

30. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 29, further comprising the step of adding resin binder to the perforated mat in an amount of less than 5% by weight.

31. (withdrawn) A method for manufacturing an oriented strand board, comprising the steps of:

depositing a first layer of wood flakes mixed with a thermoset resin binder, with a horizontal orientation;

depositing a core layer of a plurality of individual chunks of compression-resistant material that are oriented such that the void boundaries are orthogonal to the orientation of the first layer of wood flakes;

depositing a second layer of wood flakes mixed with a thermoset resin binder on an upper surface of the core layer with the same horizontal orientation as that of the first layer of wood flakes; and

applying heat and pressure to the layers in a single hot pressing step.

32. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 31, wherein the core is deposited, in said depositing of core layer step, such that the core comprises 0% to 75% voids by volume.

33. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 31, wherein the core is deposited, in said depositing of core layer step, such that the core comprises 0% to 50% voids by volume.

34. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 31, further comprising the step of adding inorganic filler to the core in the amount of 10% to 80% by weight.

35. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 34, wherein the inorganic filler is one or more of clay, calcium carbonate, and titanium dioxide.

36. (withdrawn) A method according to Claim 31, wherein the individual chunks comprise of one or more of paper mill sludge, wood chips, recycled paper, vulcanized rubber, thermoset plastics, and volcanic rock.

37. (currently amended) The panel of claim 1, wherein said core material comprises a perforated mat having comprising perforation boundaries essentially orthogonal to the plane defined by said first oriented strand face.

38. (withdrawn) A structure according to claim 1, wherein said core comprises a plurality of individual chunks of compression-resistant material that are so oriented that voids between adjacent chunks have boundaries that are in a direction essentially orthogonal to said plane defined by said first oriented strand face.

39. (cancelled)

40. (new) The panel of claim 1, wherein substantially all said voids have a diameter which is smaller than a diameter of substantially all said wood flakes.

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Respectfully submitted,

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